

**The City of Bloomington's Utility Service Board (USB) meets every other Monday at 5:00 pm. USB meetings are public meetings and citizens are welcome to attend, observe and record what transpires. For more information concerning meetings, contact the Director's Office at 600 East Miller Drive Bloomington Indiana 47401 812.349.3650**

[www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities](http://www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities)

**Mayor Mark Kruzan**



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**Mark Kruzan, Mayor**

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**City of Bloomington Utilities Water Quality Office**

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Once again the City of Bloomington's water meets and exceeds all Federal, State and Local Guidelines!

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. This publication describes those guidelines for the City of Bloomington drinking water. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua potable. Tradúzcalo o pídale a alguien que se lo explique.

이 서류는 식수에 관한 중요한 정보를 담고 있으니, 필요하면 다른이에게 번역이나 낭독을 하게하여 내용을 숙지하시기

#### Did you know:

- Producing bottled water for American consumers requires more than 1.5 million barrels of oil annually, enough to fuel about 100,000 U.S. cars for a year!
- 86% of plastic water bottles used in the U.S. become garbage or litter, and it takes up to 1,000 years for a buried water bottle to biodegrade.
- With prices ranging from \$5-\$10 per gallon, bottled water costs more than gasoline!
- Bottled water does not always mean healthier. Roughly 40% of bottled water begins as tap water.

Source: <http://www.earth-policy.org/Updates/2006/Update51.htm>

*We don't often pause to consider the incredible value of a safe, reliable water supply — and the water system that delivers it — in our everyday lives. But consider what tap water does that no other water can do.*

#### Only Tap Water Delivers ...

... public health protection.

In a world where an estimated 3 million people die every year from preventable waterborne disease, our water systems allow us to drink from virtually any public tap with a high assurance of safety. Each community water supply must meet rigorous federal and state health-protective standards.

... fire protection.

A well-maintained water system is critical in protecting our communities from the ever-present threat of fire. A system that provides reliable water at an adequate pressure can be the difference between a small fire and an urban inferno. The ability to suppress fires also influences new home construction, business location decisions and insurance rates.

... support for the economy.

Businesses or housing developments do not succeed without a safe and sustainable water supply. Tap water is critical to businesses' day-to-day operations and is often a primary ingredient in the products they create.

Source: American Water Works Association

## Your Drinking Water Source

The source of the City of Bloomington's drinking water is surface water from Monroe Reservoir, located nine miles southeast of Bloomington. The City of Bloomington has received a copy of the Indiana-Monroe Reservoir Source Water Assessment. Federal guidelines require the State of Indiana to issue Source Water Assessments in order to identify significant or possible sources of contamination. Information concerning Monroe Reservoir's Source Water Assessment is available by contacting the City of Bloomington's Water Quality Office.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

### Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses
- Organic chemical contaminants, include synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

### \*DEFINITIONS:

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technique.

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)** - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

ppm - parts per million. Equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/l).

ppb - parts per billion. Equivalent to micrograms per liter (ug/l).

**pCi/l** - Picocuries per liter is a measure of radioactivity in water. A picocurie is  $10^{-12}$  curies and is the quantity of radioactive material producing 2.22 nuclear transformations per minute.

**Action Level** - The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow. Action Levels are reported at the 90th percentile for homes at the greatest risk.

**Treatment Technique** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**CFU/ml** - Colony forming units per milliliter.

**Colony Forming Unit** - An area of visually distinct bacterial growth which may result from a single bacterium or pairs, clusters or chains of bacteria.

**Detected Contaminants Table**

| Substance                           | Highest Level Allowed<br>(EPA's MCL*) | Highest Level Detected             | Ideal Goals<br>(EPA's MCLGs*) | Sources of Contamination  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Microbiological Contaminants</b> |                                       |                                    |                               |   |
| Total Coliform Bacteria             | 5 percent <sup>1</sup>                | 1.2 percent                        | 0                             | Naturally present in the environment  |
| Heterotrophic Plate Count           | 500 CFU/ml*                           | 20 CFU/ml                          | None                          | Natural lake bacteria, wildlife, septic systems   |
| Turbidity                           | Treatment Technique*                  | 0.28 turbidity units <sup>2</sup>  | None                          | Soil runoff   |
| <b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>       |                                       |                                    |                               |   |
| Barium                              | 2 ppm*                                | 0.017 ppm                          | 2 ppm                         | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Copper                              | 1.3 ppm (Action Level)*               | 0.012 ppm (90th Percentile)*       | 1.3 ppm                       | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits                          |
| Chloramines (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )   | 4.0 ppm (MRDL)*                       | 2.8 ppm                            | 4 ppm (MRDLG)*                | Water additive to control microbes  |
| Fluoride                            | 4 ppm                                 | 1.44 ppm <sup>3</sup>              | 4 ppm                         | Water additive which promotes strong teeth  |
| Nitrate                             | 10 ppm                                | 0.11 ppm                           | 10 ppm                        | Runoff from fertilizer use; leachate from septic systems, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead                                | 15 ppb* (Action Level)                | 3.8 ppb (90th Percentile)          | 0                             | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits                          |
| <b>Organic Contaminants</b>         |                                       |                                    |                               |   |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)        | 80 ppb                                | 40.8 ppb average <sup>4</sup>      | 0                             | By-product of drinking water chlorination   |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)             | 60 ppb                                | 35.0 ppb average <sup>5</sup>      | 0                             | By-product of drinking water disinfection   |
| Total Organic Carbon (TOC)          | minimum 35% removal                   | 38.3% removal average <sup>6</sup> | None                          | Naturally present in the environment  |
| Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate           | 6 ppb                                 | 2.1 ppb                            | 0                             | Discharge from rubber and chemical factories  |

**LISTED ABOVE** are 13 contaminants detected in Bloomington's drinking water during 2007. All are within allowable levels. Not listed are the over 75 primary contaminants for which we tested that were not detected.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

<sup>1</sup> No more than 5.0 percent of the samples collected in a calendar month may test positive for total coliform bacteria.

<sup>2</sup> Turbidity levels ranged from 0.01 to 0.28 with an average of 0.14 turbidity units. The lowest level of compliance on a monthly basis was 100%.

<sup>3</sup> Fluoride levels ranged from 0.00 to 1.44 with an average of 1.10 ppm.

<sup>4</sup> Total trihalomethane levels ranged from 24.0 to 67.8 ppb. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

<sup>5</sup> Haloacetic acids (HAA5) levels ranged from 13.5 to 60.1 ppb. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

<sup>6</sup> Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal percentages ranged from 28.5 to 57.5.